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SOCIETY

Govt, Ganesh Nepali's family reach nine-point agreement

The government, Kathmandu Metropolitan City (KMC) and the family of Ganesh Nepali, the 25-year-old man from Mugu who died after attempting self-immolation outside the Department of Passports in Tripureshwor, have reached a nine-point agreement over the incident.

By REPUBLICA

July 12, 2026 at 6:08 AM

KATHMANDU, July 12: The government, Kathmandu Metropolitan City (KMC) and the family of Ganesh Nepali, the 25-year-old man from Mugu who died after attempting self-immolation outside the Department of Passports in Tripureshwor, have reached a nine-point agreement over the incident.

The agreement was signed on Sunday following talks held at the District Administration Office, Kathmandu, in the presence of Chief District Officer Ishwar Raj Paudel.

With the agreement in place, Nepali's family has agreed to proceed with the postmortem examination and receive his body, which had remained at Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital, Maharajgunj, for the past three days.

According to the agreement, the government will form an independent investigation committee under the leadership of a former judge to conduct a fair and impartial inquiry into the incident. The committee has been tasked with submitting its report to the government within seven days of its formation.

The agreement also states that a decision on declaring Nepali a martyr will be taken in accordance with existing laws, previous practices and the recommendations of the investigation committee.

Similarly, the District Administration Office will write to KMC requesting the suspension of the metropolitan police personnel deployed at the frontline on the day of the incident until the investigation committee submits its report.

KMC has also agreed to ensure employment for Nepali's widow, Ekmaya Nepali, based on her qualifications and capabilities through a decision of its executive meeting.

The metropolitan city will bear the full cost of the couple's daughter's education up to higher education, with necessary coordination from the concerned government agencies.

Under the agreement, KMC will also provide appropriate financial relief to the bereaved family and bear all expenses related to funeral rites and final rites in Kathmandu.

The Ministry of Health and Food Safety will arrange health insurance coverage for Nepali's immediate family members.

The agreement was signed on behalf of the government by Chief District Officer Paudel and KMC Chief Administrative Officer Saroj Guragain. On behalf of the victim's family, the agreement was signed by Nepali's widow Ekmaya Nepali, his father Chine Nepali, mother Sauri Nepali, elder brother Madan Nepali, younger sister Sundari Nepali and members of the victims' negotiation team.

Nepali, a resident of Jabaldhara in Soru Rural Municipality-1 of Mugu district who worked as a ride-sharing driver in Kathmandu, attempted self-immolation on July 10 following a dispute with metropolitan police over parking and the locking of his motorcycle wheel.

He sustained critical burn injuries and died the following day while undergoing treatment at the Burn Unit of Bir Hospital.

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Sahayatra calls for independent probe into Ganesh Nepali's death

In a press statement issued from Toronto on Sunday, the organization said the incident raises serious questions about the exercise of state authority, equal treatment under the law and the responsibility of public institutions to protect the dignity and rights of every citizen.

By REPUBLICA

July 12, 2026 at 4:35 AM

KATHMANDU, July 12: Sahayatra–International Alliance for Social Justice has expressed deep sorrow over the death of 25-year-old Ganesh Nepali and urged the Government of Nepal to launch an independent, transparent and impartial investigation into the circumstances surrounding the incident.

In a press statement issued from Toronto on Sunday, the organization said the incident raises serious questions about the exercise of state authority, equal treatment under the law and the responsibility of public institutions to protect the dignity and rights of every citizen.

According to the statement, Nepali, a resident of Mugu and a member of Nepal's Dalit community, died after setting himself on fire outside a government office in Kathmandu on Thursday. The organization cited media reports saying that he had gone to the office to apply for a passport when an altercation allegedly took place with Kathmandu Metropolitan City Police personnel after he was fined Rs 10,000 for reportedly parking his motorcycle in a restricted area.

The statement said media reports indicate that the confrontation escalated, leaving Nepali in severe emotional distress before he allegedly poured petrol from his motorcycle over himself and set himself on fire. It noted that the exact circumstances leading to the incident remain unclear and require an independent investigation.

Sahayatra said the case should be viewed as a test of justice, equality and state accountability. It said that while the circumstances differ significantly from the death of George Floyd in the United States, both incidents highlight the need to examine whether institutional actions or failures contributed to the loss of human life.

The organization stated that if an independent investigation establishes that sustained humiliation, intimidation, discriminatory treatment or excessive use of authority contributed to Nepali's actions, the incident would represent a serious failure of public institutions.

It also urged investigators to examine whether Nepali received equal treatment under the law or whether caste may have influenced how the incident was handled. The statement said it is important to determine through a fair and impartial investigation whether the same level of pressure or punitive action would have been applied if the individual had belonged to a socially privileged caste.

The organization said accountability is essential whenever there are credible concerns that official conduct may have contributed to a citizen's death, adding that justice is measured not only by how people die but also by whether public institutions protect human dignity, treat every citizen equally and are held accountable when they fail.

Sahayatra called on the government to establish an independent inquiry capable of determining the facts without political or institutional interference and to implement any reforms recommended by the investigation to prevent similar incidents in the future.

It also appealed to the government to provide fair compensation, psychosocial support and long-term assistance to Nepali's bereaved family, recognizing both their immediate hardship and the state's responsibility to respond compassionately whenever a citizen loses life under circumstances that warrant public accountability.

Corporation no.1335663-9

SAHAYATRA- INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Press Release

Sahayatra–International Alliance for Social Justice Calls for Independent Investigation into the Death of Ganesh Nepali

Toronto, 12 July 2026– Sahayatra–International Alliance for Social Justice has expressed deep sorrow over the tragic death of 25-year-old Ganesh Nepali and has called on the Government of Nepal to launch an independent, transparent, and impartial investigation into the circumstances surrounding the incident.

According to media reports, Mr. Nepali, a young man of Nepal's Dalit community from remote district of Mugu, died after setting himself on fire outside a government office in Kathmandu on Thursday afternoon. He had reportedly visited the office to apply for a passport when an altercation allegedly occurred with Kathmandu Metropolitan City's Police personnel (Nagar Prahari) after he was fined Rs. 10,000 for reportedly parking his motorcycle in a restricted area.

Media reports suggest that the confrontation escalated, leaving Mr. Nepali in severe emotional distress before he allegedly took the petrol from his motorcycle and set himself alight. The exact circumstances leading to the incident remain unclear and require an independent investigation.

This tragedy raises serious questions about the exercise of state authority, equal treatment under the law, and the responsibility of public institutions to safeguard the dignity and rights of every citizen.

The death of Ganesh Nepali is a test of justice, equality, and state accountability. While the circumstances differ significantly from those surrounding the death of George Floyd in the United States, both cases highlight the importance of examining whether institutional actions or failures contributed to the loss of human life.

If an independent investigation establishes that sustained humiliation, intimidation, discriminatory treatment, or an excessive use of authority played a role in driving Ganesh Nepali to such a desperate act, then this tragedy would represent a profound failure of public institutions.

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SAHAYATRA- INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

We urge investigators to examine whether Mr. Nepali received equal treatment under the law or whether factors such as caste might have influenced the manner in which the incident was handled.

It is important to determine, through a fair and impartial investigation, whether the same level of pressure or punitive action would have been applied in similar circumstances had the individual belonged to a socially privileged caste. Such questions cannot be answered through speculation, but they deserve careful examination if public confidence in justice and equality is to be maintained.

An accountability is essential whenever there are credible concerns that official conduct may have contributed to a citizen's death.

Justice is measured not only by how people die, but by whether public institutions protect human dignity, safety, treating every citizen equally, and are held accountable when they fail.

Sahayatra–International Alliance for Social Justice calls upon the Government of Nepal to establish an independent inquiry capable of determining the facts without political or institutional interference. It also urge the authorities to implement any reforms recommended by the investigation to prevent similar tragedies in the future.

In addition, we appeal to the Government to provide fair compensation, psychosocial support for healing, and long-term assistance to Mr. Nepali's bereaved family, recognising both their immediate hardship and the state's responsibility to respond compassionately whenever a citizen loses life under circumstances that warrant public accountability.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Chairperson

Executive President

Sahayatra- International Alliance for Social Justice

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